Export of Cotton from Haryana

3546. SHRI RAMJI LAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to export cotton (narma) from Fatehabad, Sirsa and Hissar of Haryana to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) Export of cotton from Haryana including the places Fatehabad, Sirsa and Hissar have been made during the current year and Haryana State Cooperative Marketing Federation has been given 22,500 bales of cotton for export during the current cotton season. In addition, Cotton Corporation of India has also purchased 1,11,013 bales of cotton (till 11th March, 1993) from the State of Haryana.

Constitution of a Board for problems of Handloom Weavers

3547. DR. SANJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a Board to look after the problems of handloom weavers; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Government has constituted a separate All India Handlooms Board.

(b) The Board has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Textiles and consists of a total of 21 members comprising both officials concerned with the handloom sector and prominent handloom representatives from different States. The main function of the Board is to advise the Government in the formulation of the overall development programmes in the handloom sector and with regard to achieving important objectives such as meeting the clothing needs of the country, providing sustained employment to handloom weavers by expanding market avenues both within and outside the country, etc.

Export of Cotton Bales

3548. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKAR BHATT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the production of cotton during current years;

(b) the number of bales of cotton likely to be used domestically in the country and the number of bales of cotton which are to be carried forward in stock;

(c) the number of bales permitted for exports; and

(d) whether Government propose to revise the Textile Policy and if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) As estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board in its meeting held on 27-1-93, the production of cotton is 122 to 124 lakh bales during the current cotton season. (September, 92 to August, 93).

(b) The Cotton Advisory Board has estimated the consumption of cotton at 113 lakh bales (Mill and Non-mill) and carry forward stock has been estimated to the tune of 31.825 to 33.825 lakh bales.

(c) Government has so far released 14.955 lakh bales for export.

(d) No, Sir.

अमरीका के साथ वस्त्र व्यापार में घाटा

3549. **श्री सोमपाल** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनका ध्यान 19 जनवरी, 1993 के नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली संस्करण) में 'अमेरिका वस्त्र आपूर्ति में लाखों का घोटाला' नामक शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत छपे समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;